

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI :

417. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,33,524 for Protective Irrigation by Re. 1.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI :

418. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,02,965 for Working expenses by Re. 1.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI :

419. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,02,965 for Working expenses by Re. 1.

MR. K. P. MADHAVAN PILLAI :

420. To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 26,65,775 under Demand VIII by Re. 1.

MR. K. I. KOCHUPPAN MAPPILLAI :

421. To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 26,65,775 under Demand VIII by Re. 1.

MR. K. P. MADHAVAN PILLAI :

422. To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 26,65,775 under Demand VIII by Rs. 100.

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR :

423. To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 26,65,775 under Demand VIII by Rs. 100.

PRESIDENT : Mr. Westerdale has moved for a grant of Rs. 26,65,775 for the P. W. D. under Demand VIII. I put to the House that the Demand may be passed.

The grant was made.

DEMAND IX—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON REPRODUCTIVE WORKS.

MR. J. S. WESTERDALE (*Chief Engineer*) : Sir, I rise to move for a grant not exceeding Rs. 17,83,800, under Demand IX—Capital outlay on Reproductive Works.

Motion 424.

The following motion was not made :

MR. P. S. MAHOMED :

424. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 16,891 under office establishment by Rs. 10.

Motion 425.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*) : Sir, I beg to make the following motion :

To reduce the allotment of Rs. 8,83,800 for Trivandrum Water Works by Re. 1,

Sir, my object is to discuss the necessity for expediting the Water Works. The work was taken up in 1105. It was then promised that the work, would be completed and water made available towards the close of 1107 or early in 1108. We were, no doubt, told a few days ago that we could expect the works to be completed and water made available during the course of 1108; but, Sir, I have my own apprehensions about that. As things stand at present, it is very difficult to be convinced that that is going to happen. The Budget also shows that the Government themselves do not really expect the work to be completed in 1108, because, I do not find in it any provision for any separate Water Works Division for the maintenance of the Division. If the Government really hope that the work would be complete in the course of 1108 certainly they would have made provision in the Budget for the maintenance of the works and for the necessary staff for that

purpose. That is a tacit admission by Government that they do not expect the work to be completed in 1108. There are, I find, many items of work yet to be completed. First of all, the dam itself is not complete. The low-level reservoir is not complete, nor is it nearing completion. The high level reservoir has not been seriously begun. Even in the main line between Aruvikara and Trivandrum, pipe-laying has not been fully done. That is where we stand.

Further, Sir, the Water Works Division is over-staffed. There are too many officers. They still have all the officers who were entertained at the beginning. I am not able to see what all these officers are doing. 2 Assistant Engineers and 8 or 10 Supervisors. I lay particular emphasis on the necessity for expediting the work, because it has been stated that the interest on the amount invested would also be added on to the capital outlay. Therefore, the work should be completed as early as possible.

In regard to the outlay itself I may mention the fact that several lakhs of rupees were spent in purchasing tubes in 1105. But they were only actually made use of in 1107. There has been a good deal of over expenditure so far as this scheme is concerned. I wish to draw the pointed attention of the House as well as of Government to the necessity for expediting this work as much as possible.

MR. P. S. MAHOMED (*Nominated*): മി. താണുപിള്ളയുടെ ഉപേക്ഷ പത്തെ ഞാൻ അനുകൂലിക്കുന്നു. ശുദ്ധജലത്തിന്റെ അഭാവം നിമിത്തം ഇന്നു തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ എവിടെയെങ്കിലും ഉപഭവം ഉണ്ടെങ്കിൽ അതു ആലപ്പുഴയാണെന്നു പറയാതെ അമില്ല.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): I rise to a point of order.

While supporting this motion, Mr. Mahomed is discussing about the necessity for the supply of good water at Alleppey.

PRESIDENT: That is not relevant.

MR. J. S. WESTERDALE (*Chief Engineer*): Sir, Mr. Thanu Pillai has remarked on the speed of execution of the work. I think I can only repeat what I said in the Council last year, that people in Trivandrum have been given a wrong impression of the time which the work would take to finish; due to undue optimism on the part of those who were placed in charge of it. I must say that, if I had been here when the work was taken up in 1105 I would not have prophesied that the work would be completed in 1107. Knowing the difficulties of execution which may prolong a work unduly I would not have made any prophesy at all. I get complaints on all hands on account of the large number of streets which are torn up for laying pipes. And although the streets are on the whole very quickly restored these general complaints are inevitable when the streets are being dug up all over the town. Mr. Thanu Pillai mentioned that the work has not advanced far and, in the next sentence

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he said that some of the establishment could be disbanded. If that establishment was necessary for carrying on those works last year it must be a necessity for this year also if at least the same amount of work is to be done this year. The Executive Engineer, on the other hand, maintains that he wants more establishment so that he can take up more pipe-laying in the town and finish it off quicker. There are over 60 miles of pipes to be laid in the town and we have so far completed a little over 30 miles. That work requires a great deal of personal supervision. Every single joint has to be tested, every foot of the trench has to be levelled, before pipes are laid. All that is supervised personally by the Supervisor and checked by the Assistant Engineer. Every single joint in these 60 miles of pipes is inspected before the lead is poured into it. They are all inspected after the lead has been poured. They are inspected again when they are put under hydraulic pressure and finally the whole thing is inspected by the Divisional Officer himself before the trench is re-filled. The purpose of that is to secure a first class joint, so that in the days to come we shall not have a large quantity of water which is pumped for the use of the town being allowed to leak into the sole in which the pipes are laid. It is an astonishing thing how a large amount of water can be wasted in that manner and still pass undetected. Coming on, Sir, to the next point of Mr. Thanu Pillai, he said that no provision has been made for maintenance. I have two reasons for that. One is that the system of maintenance has not been finally decided upon nor the body who is to take charge of it. If the Government were to contribute, it might be in the form of a contribution to the municipality. This point has not been decided and therefore it is why no provision is made in the P. W. Budget for maintenance. There is also the fact that the work may not be completed during the year. If any maintenance charges were incurred they would be incurred by the same staff in charge of execution and it would be temporarily charged to the capital account and subsequently written back to the maintenance which might be decided upon. We have enough money provided in the Budget under capital works to cover what maintenance charges may be necessary during the year. I do not think that a work of this magnitude and difficulty is not being pushed on and that its progress is unduly slow.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): May I know, as things stand at present, when water will be available?

MR. J. S. WESTERDALE (*Chief Engineer*): In my last year's Budget speech I said that though the work would not be finished in 1107 I hoped that water would be given for some parts of the town at least before the end of 1107. Well, I have been disappointed in my hopes and in this I have erred in company with my predecessors in charge of the department.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Is it in four or five days,

MR. J. S. WESTERDALE (*Chief Engineer*): No, no. I was only reminding the House of my last year's pious hope that the water would be supplied before the end of 1107. I am equally disappointed as the other members of the House are that that hope did not realise. All the same it was only a hope. I feel certain that I shall be able to supply water to the town before the end of 1108 and that we shall be able to distribute water at least to a portion of the town. I do not think I will have to stand up here this time next year and say that my hopes have not yet been realised and eat my own words again.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): May I know the total length of roads and lanes in the whole town of Trivandrum? Mr. Westerdale said that about 60 miles of pipe laying will be done.

MR. J. S. WESTERDALE (*Chief Engineer*): My impression is that we have another 30 miles of roads and lanes. That would come to 90 miles in all, main roads and lanes included.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): I merely wanted to draw the attention of the department to the necessity for hastening the water supply scheme. I beg to withdraw the motion.

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

Motions 426-430.

The following motions were not made—

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN :

426. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 8,83,800 for Trivandrum Water Works by Rs. 5.

MR. P. S. MAHOMED :

427. To omit the allotment of Rs. 1,00,000 for installation of a 5th generating set and extension of the Power House.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI :

428. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,25,000 for Trivandrum Electric Supply and Telephone by Rs. 1.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN :

429. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,25,000 for Trivandrum Electric Supply and Telephone by Rs. 5.

MR. RAMA VARMA RAJA :

430. To omit the allotment of Rs. 1,75,000 for construction of a bridge at Neri-mangalam across the Periyar.

Motion 431.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Sir, I beg to move the following motion :

To omit the allotment of Rs. 6,00,000 for Pallivasal Hydro-Electric Scheme by Rs. 1.

Sir, I may preface my speech with the observation that I do not want to go behind the findings of the experts and take a view hostile to the scheme being launched under any circumstances. At present my motion is based more on considerations of finance than anything

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else. My point is that this is not the time for us to make up a venture like this. I may refer to the financial position as can be seen from the Budget and the Budget speech of the Financial Secretary. The closing Government balance at the end of 1107 according to the Financial Secretary will be Rs. 118 lakhs. Of this about Rs. 40 lakhs forms the cash balance. I do not think it will be seriously urged that the cash balance can be touched for this purpose. I must also mention the fact that during the course of this year the Government had to borrow Rs. 10 lakhs from His Highness the Maharaja because the cash balance was not sufficient. So, we are left with a surplus of Rs. 78 lakhs according to the accounts for purposes like this. I do not see any proposal being made that a loan will be raised for this purpose. The proposal is to incur the expenditure from the surplus available. Let us take it to be Rs. 78 lakhs. Then what is the real significance of the figure? It is mentioned that a considerable portion of our surpluses is invested in non-terminable securities at 3 and 3½ per cent interest. We have invested Rs. 51 lakhs on these securities. What is the value of those securities today? It will be conceded that it can be put down roughly at Rs. 31 lakhs. So, it is only about 60 lakhs of rupees that we can consider as our surplus. From this, for capital expenditure on other items of work during the course of the year we have to draw Rs. 12 lakhs and then our balance stands below Rs. 50 lakhs. Of course, I am speaking subject to correction by the Financial Secretary. This is how I understand the figures. The available surplus stands below Rs. 50 lakhs. Now, the present scheme claims Rs. 35 lakhs. During the last few years we have been experiencing disappointments in the matter of realisation of revenue. Our P. W. D. and other budgets have been curtailed and the question has been raised—why not go in for a deficit budget. Now, that question is likely to be raised again if financial conditions do not improve very soon. There is no guarantee that our receipts are going to be much better in the coming years. We do not know where we stand. Now, with this unreal surplus are we to embark on a scheme like this is my question.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum cum Neduvangad*): What is our credit before the world?

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): I do not know. It is for the Financial Secretary to say. I would not have brought forward this motion if the Financial Secretary said: "Here is a proposal which would bring us a good return. Our Government has a credit which will make it easy for us to raise a loan. We hope to raise the loan and invest the amount in reproductive works that would be good to the people and the Government." If he had said that, I would have acceded to the proposal. But that is not being done. With these figures before us I ask whether it is wisdom to embark upon a proposal like this. If the Financial Secretary would convince me that my figures are incorrect and there is nothing wrong in embarking upon the

scheme, I shall withdraw the motion. As I said at the beginning, I do not say that this scheme should not be adopted *under any circumstances*. But as far as the financial position is concerned, I say that we should not embark upon this scheme now. If in the coming years also our revenue falls, what guarantee is there that our realisations would come true? If conditions continue like this, our agriculturists may come forward and ask for a remission of tax. They may say, "you have given us some concessions regarding the time of payment. We are thankful for that. But hereafter we will not be satisfied, with the concessions that have been shown to us. What we want now is an actual remission of the tax." Government will have to accede to their request.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum cum Neduvangad*): If this scheme is financed differently, will the member object to the scheme?

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): If the Financial Secretary can tell me that this Government has got a credit before the world that it can raise a loan of 30 lakhs of rupees and invest the money on this scheme, I have no objection. But that is not what he says. We must be convinced that the scheme will not be a failure. It must bring satisfactory returns, for people to lay their money. So long as he is not able to tell us that, and so long as he wants to make use of the little money that we have as surplus, I cannot agree to the scheme.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum cum Neduvangad*): Does the member think that the scheme, as it is, is in the interests of the country?

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): He is asking me whether the scheme is in the interests of the country. I find two stages mentioned in the scheme. There is one stage which will entail an expenditure of Rs. 11 lakhs and the other Rs. 26 lakhs. Now, the first stage will serve only the tea planters in the High Ranges. Then, we come to the second stage which will benefit the people in other parts of the State. I cannot say, and I do not say that it is in the interests of the people that the first stage is worked. Of course, we may say that people in the High Ranges are mostly Europeans and that so long as they have established themselves here for the planting industry, it is the duty of the Government to give them reasonable facilities. But the other parts of the State also should be given facilities. Who should demand the attention of Government more is another matter. I should feel for myself that the people in the plains, who cannot take care of their own interests and who stand in need of greater help from Government, must be attended to more than the others.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum cum Neduvangad*): It has to be begun in the High Ranges.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Yes. It may be that, when the first stage is completed, Government will find that they have not sufficient funds to provide for the second stage. They will stop with the first stage. If there is an assurance that the necessary amount

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will be raised before the scheme is launched upon and that the scheme will be carried to its logical conclusion, and that electric power will be made available to the people of Alleppey, Shertallai and other places then I can agree to it.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Has the member any objection to utilise the Government Savings Bank Deposits which may be considered as money borrowed for this purpose?

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Are the deposits available for all time?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Certainly. The member will find from page 7 of the Budget that we began in 1107 with Rs. 78,26,500; at the end of 1108 the net deposit is Rs. 89 lakhs, that is to say, the outgoings are less in the year than the receipts.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Less by how many lakhs of rupees?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): By Rs. 11 lakhs. There is an increase from Rs. 78 lakhs. to Rs. 89 lakhs.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): It is only Rs. 11 lakhs. Has the figure been increasing from year to year?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): That is not necessary.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): These are times of great depression. What guarantee is there that people will not draw more from the Savings Bank Deposits. They may find that they can get a better return for their money in other ways?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara cum Kartikapalli*): Does not the member realise that this Rs. 11 lakhs has accrued in the course of two years?

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): In any case I am not satisfied with the arguments of the Chief Secretary. He will have to convince me by other facts and figures. People may not allow their money to be with the Government for all time to come.

One other thing has also to be made clear. In the note supplied to us, we find 30 and odd cusecs are under the control of the company.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara cum Kartikapalli*): Does not the member know that the note supplied is confidential.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Then, I do not want to refer to the note.

PRESIDENT: Your time is up.

MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): Sir, there is an identical motion against my name—Motion 434. I may be permitted to avail myself of the ten minutes.

PRESIDENT: Yes.

MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): I support Mr. Thanu Pillai's motion. My objections to the allotment of Rs. 6 lakhs for the Hydro-Electric Scheme at Pallivasal are the same as those advanced by

Mr. Thanu Pillai. In my budget speech I pointed out to the House the extreme inadvisability of embarking upon any new schemes which entail heavy expenditure. My reason was that we have already undertaken large capital works and that we were still liable to spend large sums of money so that we might complete the adverse have already embarked upon. I referred to the Chakkay-Thampanur railway extension and pointed out how, in spite of anticipated preliminary estimate, we had to spend a large amount of money in excess. I referred to the Trivandrum Water Works and the incomplete condition in which it is lying at present and the huge amount of money that has to be spent in order that we might get the first drop of water which the Chief Engineer has promised. It is in its preliminary stage and a large amount of money has still to be spent upon that. I also referred to the fact that if the Travancore Durbar is bound to purchase the Quilon-Shencotta railway in 1947 we will have to find out the Rs. 80 lakhs in addition to the sinking fund deposits that Government have already in their possession. I referred to the Rs. 14 lakhs of debt under the debenture bonds. Taking all these things into consideration we will find that the Travancore Durbar is at present heavily indebted to complete the works already undertaken, and for completing the contracts we have entered into with the foreign States or concerns. Therefore it was that I asked whether at this moment it is feasible to embark on a scheme which is likely to exceed the admitted amount of Rs. 37 lakhs odd. I refer to Rs. 37 lakhs because we shall not be satisfied with the Rs. 11 lakhs which the Government may probably spend at the first stage. We have to complete the second stage also if the scheme is to be a valuable asset to the State. It is not the Rs. 11 lakhs only that we have to spend. It is not the Rs. 6 lakhs that we have to spend in 1108 that has to be taken into account. We have to take into consideration the Rs. 37 lakhs. In addition to that there are certain items left out in this estimate. I am sure, the Pallivasal Power House which at present belong to the K. D. H. P. Co., will have to be paid for by the Government. That has not been taken into consideration. Communication for the purposes of the Power House, the wiring, the postings and other electric plants, this I understand, has not yet been completed. If it is so, I am not in a position to understand how the Government do come forward now and say this is an urgent scheme, this scheme will develop Travancore beyond what we all dreamt of half a dozen years ago and therefore we must immediately take up this work. I also learn that the first stage requires a certain kind of pipes and for the second stage we want a duplication of the pipe line for some distance. When we want to go on with the second stage, we have to do the work over again to lay the duplicate pipes, so that the energy may be sent to Alleppey, Shertallai, Kottayam and other places. So, it is not correct to say that Travancore is to be benefited by the first part of the work. I may also bring to the notice of the House that, in spite of what the Chief Engineer, and the Government said, we have not yet been convinced of the urgent necessity for this work. I can understand that it is a profitable undertaking and

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that no one will have any objection to that scheme. But my question is, what is the urgency about the work? Why should we undertake this work and shelve a lot of money at a time when we are ourselves unable to keep the treasury balances in proper condition? Where is the necessity for the work? Government have not convinced us of the necessity for the work. There is not even a single line in the note supplied to us which tells us that this is a scheme which Travancore wants and this is a scheme which we must push forward at the present moment.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): Does not the member know that it will provide labour to a certain extent?

MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): If my friend has gone to Pallivasal, he will find that it is non-Travancorean labour that is being employed there. In those hilly places Travancore labour is seldom available.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): Is it because *Pandy* labour is cheaper?

MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): That may be one reason. The argument that Travancore labour will be provided does not appeal to me.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): Will *Pandy* labour be sufficient for this large project?

MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): You will seldom find Travancore labour flowing up. But you will find that non-Travancore labour flows readily into the country.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara cum Kartikapalli*): May I know why Travancore labourers will not be benefited?

MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): Because Travancore labour is slow to move to the hills.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): May I know whether the member is aware that labour from Travancore goes to Ceylon and the Malaya Estates?

MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): Perhaps it is more profitable to work there. Here our labourers are underbid by our neighbouring labourers and therefore we are not able to get as much profit as in Ceylon or in the Malay Estate.

MR. M. GOVINDAN (*Nominated*): May I know whether a good deal of *Pandy* labour is not more easily accessible in Pallivasal which is nearer, than Malayalam labour?

MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): Whatever may be the reason, he who has visited Devicolam and some of these estates, will be convinced that it is non-Travancorean labour that is largely employed there. I am only asking whether it is true to say that this will provide labour for Travancoreans. I want such a statement.

MR. M. GOVINDAN (*Nominated*): May I know from the member....

MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): My time will be over soon, and I may be called upon at any moment to sit down. I therefore request not to be questioned.

The other day I read a publication regarding the agreement executed with the Kannan Devan Hills Produce Company for the grant of a concession to them, published in the Travancore Regulations and Proclamations. Under that agreement, it would appear, that some further concession had to be made to the Company. I am not in a position to say why or under what circumstances that concession had to be made. Is not the Durbar, when once they commit themselves to an agreement, bound to provide energy for these people? If they are under law or agreement bound to provide energy for the K. D. H. P. Company at any time in 1932 or 1953, that may be one reason that could be urged in support of the scheme. If this scheme is necessary for the progress of Travancore, it may be another argument in support of the scheme. Without any one of these arguments merely to say that we are going to get a profit of 10 per cent. on the money we are going to advance, is, I submit Sir, not reasonable. The tariff charges, the interest and the depreciation charges will amount to 10 per cent. of the initial outlay. There are better schemes from which we could get even 15 per cent. interest. But that will not be a justification for the State to undertake any responsible costly schemes especially at this juncture of acute economic depression.

MR. L. A. LAMPARD (Planters): Sir, I should like to support the scheme; and, therefore I have to oppose the motion.

I do not propose to deal with the scheme on the financial line which Mr. Thanu Pillai has referred to. I am presuming that Government have access to this money and that there is no difficulty about the provision of the necessary funds.

Sir, I think it is fully recognised in Travancore now that for providing work for the unemployed, for the people in general, we have to look more and more to industrial development in the country. One of the chief requirements of industry is cheap and plentiful power. And, this scheme, that is now put forward, appears to me to offer it. It affords a solution for the requirements of Travancore in that matter. Certainly, for some years to come, power will be plentiful and sufficient.

As regards the cost, I should like to deal with that point fully later on. One has not to travel very far to see vast development going on in electricity. Some schemes have already been developed in South India. In Travancore, we have facilities which, clearly, have to be developed. I believe Government have investigated 12 schemes, and this appears to be the most acceptable.

There are three distinct features of the scheme which appear to me. One is the question of the Power House, where, presumably, you have no insuperable difficulty. I would like to refer to the good work that has already been done by the planters in this connection. They are pioneers of this work in Travancore. They have taken the risk and have proved that electricity is a profitable venture in that District. That is particularly an important point just now; because, as soon as the Government begin the supply, they have directly, at the Power House, a ready made market for their energy. I doubt whether there is any scheme anywhere where they have a ready made market at the generating station itself. The chief difficulty everywhere is to find a market

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after the scheme is developed. Here, in the proposed Pallivasal Scheme, to start with, there is that very great advantage.

Then, Sir, the question was raised by one member whether the scheme is proposed to be developed for the planters only. I do not know what is in the mind of Government; but I cannot think that it is a correct view to take because there is this feature of the scheme, namely that it will provide cheap power at the Alleppey end. There is a statement to that effect in the Financial Secretary's speech and I accept that.

There is one other point which has not been mentioned in the debate so far, namely, the saving in the capital outlay for the factories in Travancore. I feel I am on safe grounds when I say that it is much cheaper to electrify a factory than to instal other means of power. I know it is a fact in tea factories; and I think it is, in other cases also. That is a point that should appeal to the merchants in a place like Alleppey. The provision of capital is one of the greatest difficulties; and in future, if this scheme goes through, the Travancore merchant and industrialist will not have to lay out so much capital on machinery and provide for interest on the outlay or for depreciation.

The most important point from the public point of view is the cost to the public. I do not mean the cost on account of the capital outlay, but the cost of power. I would like to ask the Government whether they could see their way to make that known as soon as possible. There are planters who have to consider now the question of creating new factories or of providing further power. Until they know the rate at which they could expect to get power from Government, they are not in a position to decide whether to wait for the scheme or to produce their own power. That is a point which has considerable bearing on the scheme.

Then, Sir, as has been pointed out by other members, the scheme will provide employment. Apart from the labour part of it, it will afford employment during the erection of the buildings and plant, and in transport from year to year. More important than that, the scheme provides for capable training of Travancoreans. They are bound to learn a good deal of what electricity means, and see what is going on in industrial development. That, I think, will be excellent training for the young men of the country.

I therefore oppose the cut.

PRESIDENT : Before the adjourn, I wish to point out to the members that to-morrow the debate is to close at 5 O'clock. In order to give a full day with 45 minutes' break in the middle, I should be glad if members will come at eleven-fifteen instead of at eleven-thirty in the morning.

The Council adjourned at 5-15 of the Clock to re-assemble at 11-15 on Friday.

A. KUMARA PILLAI,

Secretary to the Legislative Council.